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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No. : 10/817,546
Applicant : Euan Skinner Macleod et al.
Filed : April 2, 2004
Examiner :
Title : VACUUM CLEANER
Docket No. : 0978-0024
Confirmation No.: 2538

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Date: April 12, 2006

I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office Box Addressee" service under 37 CFR 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Name: Francisca M. A. Hubbard

Signature: Francisca M. A. Hubbard

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In connection with the examination of the above-identified application, the following references are called to the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office.

U.S. Patent Documents

6,192,550 Hamada et al. 02/27/2001

Foreign Patents/Publications

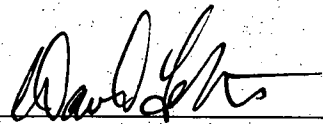
GB 2 372 433 Howes 08/28/2002

Other

European Search Report – Application Number EP 04 25 1832 in the Hague on February 3, 2005

Applicant encloses a PTO/SB/08A form identifying each of the above-listed references, and a copy of each foreign reference is also enclosed. In that regard, the European Search Report identifies EP 1023864 and indicates that U.S. 6,192,550 B1 is part of the "family" for such reference. Accordingly, applicant has cited to U.S. 6,192,550. This statement is provided in order to comply with 37 C.F.R. §1.56 and §1.97 et. seq. and this statement is not to be construed as a representation that these references are prior art or are material to the subject application or that no information exists which is more material than these references.

Respectfully submitted,

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